

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01796 021929Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1796

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PINT

SUBJECT: WORLD PEACE COUNCIL MEETING IN SOFIA, FEBRUARY 16-19

1. AT POLADS MEETING APRIL 2, NETHERLANDS REP REPORTED ON COUNCIL-LEVEL MEETING OF THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL IN SOFIA, FEBRUARY 16-19. ACCORDING TO NETHERLANDS REP, THERE WERE 600 PARTICIPANTS FROM 100 COUNTRIES.

2. BECAUSE OF SOVIET DISSATISFACTION WITH EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR THE WORLD PEACE MOVEMENT, THE COUNCIL CREATED TWO NEW AND RELATIVELY SMALL BODIES: A PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE, COMPOSED OF ABOUT 100 MEMBERS; AND A BUREAU OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE, APPARENTLY CONSISTING OF 24 MEMBERS, TO IMPLEMENT PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE DECISIONS. ONE THOUSAND PERSONS WERE NAMED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE RENOVATED WORLD PEACE COUNCIL.

3. IN ITS CLOSED-DOOR SESSIONS, THE COUNCIL HEARD STANDARD APPEALS TO INTENSIFY THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, REACTION AND "THE FORCES UNDERMINING INTERNATIONAL DETENTE," AND TO EXTINGUISH HOTBEDS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM IN INDO-CHINA AND ISRAELI AGGRESSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THERE WAS APPARENTLY ALSO SOME FAR-LEFT CRITICISM OF MOSCOW'S TOO-CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 01796 021929Z

FORTHCOMING AND DANGEROUS DETENTE POLICY. IN PUBLIC REPLY, THE COUNCIL ISSUED A PRESS STATEMENT INDICATING THAT THE TRUE PHILOSOPHY OF PEACE AT THIS TIME WAS ONE OF HISTORICAL OPTIMISM.

4. THE NETHERLANDS CONCLUDED THAT THE MEETING'S MAIN SIGNIFICANCE LAY IN ITS ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TWO NEW BODIES TO STRENGTHEN THE EXECUTIVE AND MAKE THE WPC EVEN MORE SUBSERVIENT TO MOSCOW.

5. THE NEXT WPC MEETING, TO CELEBRATE THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD PEACE MOVEMENT, WILL BE HELD IN PARIS FROM APRIL 23-28.
RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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